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Subject: IDL for Linux? or just a dream  
Posted by [glennits](#) on Tue, 07 Mar 1995 21:44:51 GMT  
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I was in contact with RSI in late October, early November and it was mentioned that they were seriously looking at porting IDL to Linux. The last I heard, in mid Jan., was that they decided against it, due to lack of support (for Linux) and interest from the market. Has this changed? or has someone out there attempted an unsupported port? A switch to Linux away from windows would make me very happy, if anyone has info or gossip I would like to know.

Glenn

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Subject: Re: IDL for Linux? or just a dream  
Posted by [knipp](#) on Wed, 08 Mar 1995 13:39:14 GMT  
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...  
> mid Jan., was that they decided against it, due to lack of support (for Linux)  
> and interest from the market. Has this changed? or has someone out there  
...  
> Glenn

As some well known person from the 23rd Century would comment:

"Fascinating"

Karl

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Subject: Re: IDL for Linux? or just a dream  
Posted by [uphlabh](#) on Thu, 09 Mar 1995 01:20:18 GMT  
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In article <glennits.9.000DBF73@hookup.net>,

Farrington <glennits@hookup.net> wrote:

> [...] A switch to Linux away from windows would make  
> me very happy, if anyone has info or gossip I would like to know.

I've also talked to the RSI folks about Linux. There are a few bumps in the road to getting IDL on a Linux box...

- (1) The software IDL uses for license protection isn't available for Linux.
- (2) Is IDL on Linux viable? Are people willing to pay \$1500 for IDL on a linux box?
- (3) Linux isn't a commercial product, and that makes the RSI folks nervous. If some feature of IDL needed a specific enhancement to Linux to make it work, there may be no guarantee it would happen.

I think what is key here is grand success with PV-WAVE. If PV-WAVE flounders on Linux, those of us who want IDL are pretty well (continue to be) hosed.

Alas,

Brian  
uphlabh@gemini.oscs.montana.edu

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Subject: Re: IDL for Linux? or just a dream  
Posted by [ps](#) on Thu, 09 Mar 1995 23:47:15 GMT  
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Brian Handy (uphlabh@gemini.oscs.montana.edu) wrote:

: In article <glennits.9.000DBF73@hookup.net>,  
: Farrington <glennits@hookup.net> wrote:  
: >[...] A switch to Linux away from windows would make  
: >me very happy, if anyone has info or gossip I would like to know.

: I've also talked to the RSI folks about Linux. There are a few bumps in  
: the road to getting IDL on a Linux box...

: (1) The software IDL uses for license protection isn't available for  
: Linux.

Ah, the MS-Windows Version is using a license manager and floating licenses?

: (2) Is IDL on Linux viable? Are people willing to pay \$1500 for IDL  
: on a linux box?

Lots of universities are using Linux, as it is very cheap. If the software has the same price as for an 'official' workstation, where is the problem? Of course, as a private user, I couldn't pay that price. But again: What is the price of the Windows-version, and who is using it?

: (3) Linux isn't a commercial product, and that makes the RSI folks  
: nervous. If some feature of IDL needed a specific enhancement  
: to Linux to make it work, there may be no guarantee it would happen.

That is no real argument. I would suppose it a \*lot\* easier to implement some changes in Linux than in any 'official' OS.

: I think what is key here is grand success with PV-WAVE. If PV-WAVE  
: flounders on Linux, those of us who want IDL are pretty well (continue  
: to be) hosed.

I already see the star of IDL sinking due to all the students having used PV-WAVE in Linux and therefore buying it for their company, once they have a job. That is - in my opinion - a great PRO for a Linux version. But I don't have to decide...

Peter

----- Peter 'PIT' Suetterlin -----  
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